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Letter from Mary D. Clemson to Floride, 1856 February 19

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Philadelphia Feb 19
[Feb. 19, 1856]

My dear Floride.

I received your letter on
Friday when I got home from school but it had
come a day or two before. I was very glad to get
it. I came here yesterday and no accident hap-
pened which I was very glad of as there ~~is~~ ^{are} so
many happen lately because of the snow and
cold weather, the week before ~~one~~ as we were
coming up one of the wheels of a baggage
car broke and ran off the track which
detained us a great while and that
was not very pleasant. I like school very
well but of course not near as well
as home. We have got ^{several} new teachers which
I like much better. I do not like the city
much. We have had a great deal of snow
& and ~~sky~~ sleighing this winter I wonder
if it will snow much more. The
sleighing is entirely gone in the city
for this snow, & I suppose will soon be

the same in the country unless it should
snow again. Did you ever make
Ice cream or Water ice of snow
it is very nice, we have made Ice
cream at home several times this winter
and Water ice once I believe. I suppose
you will be a little surprised at
receiving a letter from me so soon after
you wrote, but I thought I would write
by aunt Sue, I suppose you will be very
glad to have them pay you a visit, I
do think uncle William is very nice
and aunt Sue too. It is very pleasant
to have them here at the school. We
did not have Maths last session but
we have them this & to day it is
my day to be Monitorous, I would rather
not be at all but of course I must
be as well as the other girls it would
not be fair to let one off and not
the others. But you must be tired
of hearing about school so I must try
to hunt up something else to tell you
but I have not much to say you may
think it is rather a trouble to read it

but I ~~it~~ as it is pretty long but has not
to interest you in it. It was a ~~wonder~~
wonder there were not ^{some} ~~more~~ killed
at the railroad accident of which
you spoke. How is your little sister I was
glad to hear she was growing ~~sixty~~ years
I would to see her. How are all your
cats coming on & how many have you
does your poultry come on well I suppose
you have been pecking on some of them
this winter. I guess I will stop now as
I have nothing much else to say, only to
give my love to all & to yourself. Goodbye.
your loving cousin

Mary Helmsen.